G. R. S. 59]

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

1892-3
19.
(Archæological)

File No. 290

Serial Nos.

Papers Filed.

*Month*_____

SUBJECT.

Correspondence about the Conservation of ancient buildings in Mysore & Belur Temple especially

PREVIOU~ ~EFERENCES.

LATER REFERENCES.

508-18
201-20

Form B.

List of Letters in the File.

Serial Number.	Letter. No.	Letter. Date.	From whom.	To whom.
1	202	31/8/00	The Dy Com^r, Cuttack	The Secretary
2	4098		from ~~The Secretary~~	The Dr of Arch. Res.
3	4418	22/9/00	The Dr of Arch^l Researches	The Secretary.
4	5634-36	23/10/00	Govt Proceedings	
5	5525	26/10/00	The F. & A. Secy	The Offg Dewan
6	6135	1/11/00	The Secretary	The Dr of Archy
7	6134	1/11/00	— ditto —	The Chief Engr
8	6133	1/11/00	— ditto —	The Muzrai Dept
9	A slip circulating the above papers			to Councillors
10	1448	6/11/00	The Dr of Archy	The Secretary
11	A Note	10/11/00	Muzrai Secretary	
12	5894	10/11/00	The F. & A. Secy	The Offg Dewan
13	6638	23/11/00	The Secretary	The Dr of Archy
14	5628	20/11/00	The Chief Engr	The Secretary
15	8338	21/12/00	The Secretary	The Dr of Archy
16	1486	10/1/01	The Dr of Archy	The Secy
17	1487	15/1/01	The Dr of Archy	The Secretary
18	1488	15/1/01	— ditto	The Secretary

Published in the Fort St. George Gazette of 1871.
Aug. 9/2/01

General Circular No. 4 of 1870-1.

The 3rd October 1871

Restoration and repairs of Temples and Chattrams.

The Chief Commissioner directs that the following instructions prescribing the measures to be adopted in carrying out the necessary repair and restoration of Temples and Chattrams supported from State Funds shall be observed.

2. From the returns furnished by the Superintendents of Divisions in accordance with the instructions contained in this Office circular No. 3382-57 of 24th September 1869, it appears that inclusive of the Maharaja's Chattrams at Benares and at Tirupati in the North Arcot District of the Madras Presidency, there are 76 Chattrams supported by this State. Of these 27 are stated to be in good order and the remaining 49 Chattrams to be in need of repairs, which are estimated to cost Rs 2577. The temples endowed or

Published in the
Fort St George Gazette of 1871.

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maintained by this State, and reported to be in need of repairs are 612 in number and the outlay requisite for their repair or restoration is estimated at Rs 45,269.

3. In respect of the Chattrams, the Chief Commissioner considers that the funds necessary for providing for their repair can be obtained by suspending temporarily the feeding allowances assigned by Government to these buildings. Measures will accordingly be taken by Deputy Superintendents with this object after procuring detailed estimates of the repairs necessary for the several buildings situated within their respective Districts. The aggregate sum required having thus been ascertained, it will be at the discretion of the District Officers to discontinue the feeding allowances, partially or generally, for such period as may be necessary, to accumulate a sufficient fund for the purpose.

4. With regard to the temples, it will be desirable to make a distinction between those buildings which though

abandoned and in partial ruin may be deemed worthy of preservation on account of their sculpture or architecture and those in which the services are still carried on.

5. As regards the former class, it is believed that there are few buildings of this character which are deserving of special notice. In such cases a special report should be submitted to this Office with estimates of cost involved in their restoration.

6. The repair of temples which do not fall within the above definition is as stated above estimated to cost Rs45000 odd and to meet this outlay it is necessary that the temple managers or communities whose interest it is to preserve them from decay should be called upon to share with the Government the cost of their repair or restoration. The Chief Commissioner desires that it may be impressed upon them that while the Government is prepared

to give all reasonable aid towards the object in view, the duty is incumbent on them of contributing at least a moiety of the estimated cost and that sanction to the repair of any such building will not be accorded unless it has been certified that such portion of the cost has been paid up.

7. With the sanction of the Government of India, provision to the extent of Rs 8000 per annum for the next three years succeeding the 1st April next has been directed to be entered in the Provincial Budget and the Deputy Superintendents will be desired to submit through the Superintendents of Divisions as early as may be practicable a detailed list of those temples the managers of which have agreed to fulfil the conditions herein prescribed. The Deputy Superintendents should further indicate the order in which it is desired that the several [illegible] should be taken up, preference

being given to those institutions which have been built by the former rulers of the province over those constructed by private persons although in both cases the temples may be supported from State Funds.

8. In carrying out this rule the Deputy Superintendents should endeavour to give the fullest consideration to the claims of all sections of the Hindu Community and the Chief Commissioner Considers that this object may be ensured by requiring the Native Assistant who in each district may have been placed in charge of the Muzrai Department under the instructions conveyed in this office letter marginally noted to institute a careful enquiry into the conditions of all buildings described referred to, the mode which their repair can be most economically effected and the ability or otherwise of the people to comply with the conditions now laid down.

By order
F. Clar
Sec.

No 2090
5/118

Office of the Resident in Mysore,

Bangalore 30th Oct 1885

To The Secretary to the Dewan
of Mysore

Sir,

With reference to correspondence ending with letter No 8731/2557/4386 of 28th March 1885 from this Office, I am directed to forward copies of Resolutions in the Home department noted on the margin and to state that the Resident will be glad if you can furnish him with a list of all ancient monuments in Mysore prepared in accordance with the instructions contained & the forms given in the Resolutions enclosed

I am
Sir
Your obedient Servant
Sd J. A. Nevill
Asst to the Resident

3/168-83 Dy 26.11.83
5/170-82 Dy 22.8.85

D P W.

Please call upon E. Ers & A Ers in independent charge to submit Sts in the forms herein prescribed - When the Sts are recd & compiled we may be able to omit some as not being of sufft interest. After that a list can be sent to the Resident - No 82 of 11th March '85. Kindly see my letter to Resident - No 82 of 11th March & Hal bird samples. The restoration shd be proceeded with, was the last decision

Yours
25/11/85

No. 1726 Dy 23.4.88.
317

To:

The Assistant to the
Resident in Mysore

Sir,

In Compliance with your letter No. 2090/118 Dy 30th October 1885. I have the honor, by desire of the Dewan, to submit the accompanying list of objects of antiquarian interest in the Mysore Province, prepared in accordance with the instructions contained in the Government of India Resolution received with your Communication quoted above, and in the form therein prescribed

II In the column of "Remarks" of the list, will

be found the records at the Abraham as regarded the way in which it is proposed to deal with each monument Orders will be issued to the Revenue and P W Officers, in due course advising them of their responsibilities respecting the Conservation of these monuments which it has been decided to preserve

(Initialled) C. B.

5. 3. 88.

Mysore P. W. Department

~~MUZRAI~~

~~189~~ 1888-89.

From The Secretary to the

To Govt. of Mysore.

A. M. Dy Comrs.

Dated Bangalore 11th May/88

Despatched

Received

General No. 6094 61

Muzrai F. No.

Enclosure No. one.

I have the honor to forward the enclosed Extract from the List of objects of Antiquarian interest in the Mysore Province, submitted to the Resident in Mysore, Containing the Views of the Durbar as regards the way in which it is proposed to deal with each monument.

II. In doing so, I am desired by the Dewan to urge upon you

the responsibility for the proper conservation in
of the monuments in your District which it has been
decided to preserve. The Ex: Engrs. will be directed to
attend to the repairs requiring to be carried out
by the P.W. Department.

(Sd) C.H.M.K
24.4.88.

Secy:

Circular N.° 61 of 11.5.1888.

Copy of above enclosed extract from list, to
each Ex: Engrs. (Except 3 Temply Dns.) for information
& guidance.

(Sd) C.H.M.K.

876.

2576
4-9-00.

(General Serial No. 31.)

1900-1901.

From The Deputy Commissioner Chitaldrug district

To The Secretary to the Govt of Mysore Genl and Rev. Depts Bangalore.

Dated 31/8/00 August-1900

Despatched 1/9/1900.

Received

Enclosures No. 3.

General No. 202.
No.

Soliciting sanction to the expenditure incurred on account of clearing out earth in and around an ancient machine of grinding stones under the ground on the up-land at Chitaldrug.

Subd may this be transferred to Mysl Depl

LL
4 9 00

5.9.00

Ry Comm
The Resident doubts if the Cost in question can be debited to Municipal Funds & asks the sanction of Govt for the Cost being met from Govt Revenues
The matter may be considered to come under "Archæology" & this paper transfd to Mysl Depl

Govt Order
6/9/00

El Secy
Please send this paper to the Director of Archæological Researches in Mysore for report & opinion as to whether the cost was incurred on reasonable grounds & whether the cost cannot be met from Municipal funds at the disposal of
10/9/00

No. 202. Ell: 3.

Deputy Commissioners' office
Chitaldroog District

Dated 31st August 1900

To.

The Secretary to the Government of Mysore
General and Revenue Departments
Bangalore

Sir,

I have the honor to state that in the course of inspection recently made by Mr. D. K. Darashah Probationary Assistant Commissioner, near the ruins of the old ammunition stores at some distance from the entrance to the hill fort at Chitaldroog, a portion of a huge stone that lay buried in the ground seems to have attracted his attention and on unearthing the remaining portion of it out of curiosity it was found to be the lower half of a big grind stone placed on a sice of some Construction which was supposed to have existed underneath.

On receipt of this information, I inspected the spot and was tempted to allow the removal of the debris round to be continued as it was hoped that it might lead to some interesting discoveries. Accordingly orders were issued to take up the work immediately on hand in anticipation of Government sanction. An outlay of Rs 75- has already been incurred up to date and a further sum of Rs 25/- is required for the completion of the work.

3. An old stone construction has been discovered, where four pairs of big grinding stones are placed facing one another. In the middle there is a circular projection which seems to have been used in some peculiar manner to work the four grinding stones together mechanically.

4. This structure of old times I.e.

become an interesting sight to all Visitors, indicating the mechanical skill of by gone times.

5. I doubt whether the cost of this Clearing can be charged to the Municipality

6. I beg therefore that sanction may be accorded to the expenditure being met from the General Revenues.

7. The Vice Presidents' Yadis on the subject together with an estimate are herewith submitted.

I have the honor to be
Sir,

Your most obedient Servant

The Director of Archaeological Research
in Egypt

Date 15-9-908

No. 4098 Bowsfield
Hrs 893

Has the honour to forward
in original letter No 202 dated 31
August 1908 from the Deputy
Commissioner Chitaldroog District
with its enclosures for favour
of opinion as to whether the
cost of clearing
out earth in and around an
ancient machine of forma
-stones under the ground on
the up hill at Chitaldroog
was incurred on reasonable
grounds and whether the
cost cannot be met from
funds at his disposal.

By order
12/9/08

For Secretary
MD 21/9/08

Mis 108

~~189~~ 1900

35-16
28-9-00

From

The Director of Archæological Researches
in Mysore.

To

The Secretary to the Govt. of Mysore,
Revenue & General Depts.

Dated Bangalore, 22-9-1900

Despatched

Received

General No. 1418
No.

Enclosure No. 1 fol

Stating that it would be
desirable to form an exact
opinion from comparison and
collation, and such examination
should not be discouraged
and also stating that there
are no available funds
meet the cost

Subdivi-
The amount, Rs 100,
may, if considered, be
from Original Savings
the Archæological Budg.
Yes.
Mr Rice submits
by Commissioner
Rules Rs 100
2/10/1900

No 1418

Enc 1

BANGALORE, 22 September 1901

FROM

THE DIRECTOR OF ARCHÆOLOGICAL RESEARCHES

IN MYSORE.

TO

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVT. OF MYSORE,

REVENUE AND GENERAL DEPARTMENTS.

SIR,

I have the honour to return the enclosures received with your docket, General No $\frac{4098}{893}$ of the 15th instant, and in reply to state that it is difficult to form an exact opinion in such cases from surface indications, and excavations to ascertain the truth of the matter should not be discouraged as they might lead to discoveries of importance though expectations are often disappointed. There are no funds at present provided for the

purpose in this Department, nor any available for meeting the expenditure in question.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Director of Archl Researches

KM GAm

Head

Letter No 202 dated 31 Aug/10
from the Deputy Comm.
Chittaldrug District requesting
sanction to a sum of Rs 100/
being spent on account of
removing the debris round
portion of a large stone that
lay buried in the ground near
the ruins of the old ammu-
-nunition stores at some
distance from the entrance
to the Hill Fort at Chitaldrug
as it is hoped to believe that it may
lead to some interesting
discoveries.

Letter No 1408 of the 22nd
Sept/09 from the Director
of Archl Researches in Mysore
reporting on the same subject.

Order No 5634-36 / Fin 1177 / 23-10-940

The sum of Rs 100 applied
for in the above for the purpose
indicated is sanctioned, the
charge being kept pool for
pl. Savings in the Archl
Budget for the current year.

W Secretary 16/10/10

To The Deputy Comm Chitaldrug
(Duplicate)
with enclosures
& Archl: Researches in Mysore
Comptroller —

Col

1900

From The Z. A. Resident in Mysore

To

THE SECY. TO THE GOVT. OF MYSORE,
GEN. & REV. DEPTS.

Dated 26, 10, 00.

Despatched

Received

General No. 5525.
No.

Enclosure No.

Expressing the Views of the Resident on the subject of the Conservation of ancient buildings in Mysore

References to be marked.

Submitted

Put up the papers as regards Chitaldroog. 26/10/00

Referred

Col Sir W. Lawrence

The last matter referred to in this letter was dealt with in the General Secretariat and Mr Rice was consulted about sanctioning grants. The papers are put up.

The other matters relate to other Depts. 27/10/00

The views of Major Cuppage Chief Engr & Mr Rice on the several points raised in this letter — as to each Dept separately & both together for a reply — whether at once or after Durbar — after which a decision what reply should be sent to the Resident —

The draft letter may be sent now for with papers showing the Commissioners

28/10

No. [illegible]

FROM

THE FIRST ASSISTANT TO THE RESIDENT
IN MYSORE.

To

The Officiating Do ar of M,so .

Dated Bangalore, 26 October 190 .

SIR,

I am directed by the Resident to addr ss ,ou regarding various matte s in connection ith the conse - vation of ancient buildings in M so which have recently come to his notice and which seem to equi e attention.

2. The first matter to which I am to cal ,our attention is the preservation of the temple at Belu . The Resident understands that this temp e is under the Muzrai Department, and that a lump grant is made b that Department annually for temple festivals &c. besides repairs and up-keep. If there is any special damage at any time requiring urgent extra expenditu e, it cannot apparently be met if it exceeds the grant made by the Muzrai Department, so that it might happen that irrepair - able damage might be done because of the difficult in obtaining a special grant. The temple at Halebid on the

other hand is under the Public Works Department, and any repairs needed are promptly executed. It is believed that the priests and other persons connected with the temple at Beyrut are anxious that this temple shall be treated in the same manner as that at Halebid, that is to say, that it shall be placed under the Public Works Department instead of under the Muzrai Department, in order that repairs may be carried out without delay. The Resident is not acquainted with all the circumstances of the case; but the suggestion seems to him at first sight to be reasonable, and he would be glad to hear whether the Durbar are disposed to effect this change. The roof of the temple is said to require some attention at present.

3. The second matter as to which Colonel Robertson desires information is the extent to which the Archaeological Department is actually consulted before any action is taken by the Public Works Department regarding the conservation or repair of ancient buildings, and also as to whether important archaeological discoveries are immediately reported to the Archaeological Department. In the two following instances the Resident considers that, if the facts have been correctly reported to him, there has been some failure on the part of the executive authorities to consult with that Department. The first instance is that of the famous Kait Iswara temple at Halebid which is now in ruins. The fragments of this temple are, it is understood, to be put in order by the Public Works

Department

Department, and a grant is said to have been made for the purpose. It does not appear whether the Archaeological Department has been consulted as to the manner in which the various fragments, which are now scattered all over the temple enclosure, are to be arranged, a thing this would appear to be essential, a work in which the personal inspection and advice of Mr. Rice would be of advantage. The second instance is that of the discovery of a set of gigantic stone men in the Fort at Chitaldrug, which are probably of considerable antiquarian interest. Colonel Robertson learnt, when recently at Chitaldrug, that this discovery had not been brought to the notice of the Archaeological Department.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Robb

First Assistant Resident.

Q. No 6134 / No 1322 3-11-900

To

The Chief Engineer
and Secy to the Govt
of Mysore, D. P W

Sir,

I am directed to forward herewith a copy of letter No 5525 of the 26th Octr 1900, from the First Asst to the Resident in Mysore, regarding the conservation of ancient buildings in Mysore, and to request the favor of your opinion on the several points referred to therein, viz:-

(1) Whether the Bolur Temple may be placed under the P W Dept for the purpose of the needful repairs being promptly executed,

(2) Whether the Archaeological Dept is

Subd to the Offg Dewan
31/10/00

31/10

actually consulted
before any action
is taken by the
P. W. Deptt. regarding
the Conservation or
repair of ancient
buildings and whether
important Archaeo-
-gical discoveries
are immediately reptd.
to the Archaeological
Department,

(3) Whether the
Archaeological Deptt
has been consulted
as to the arrangement
of the fragments
of the Kail Iswara
Temple at Halébid,
which, it is under-
stood, are to be
put in order by
the P. W. Department,
and whether it
would not be

of

of advantage to
take the advice of
Mr Rice in such
a matter.

I have [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

No 6135
dn 1323 1-11-900

To

The Director
of Archaeological Researches
in Mysore.

15061

Sir,

I am directed to forward herewith a copy of letter No. 5525 dated 26th Oct 1900 from the First Assistant to the Resident in Mysore, and to request the favor of your opinion on the suggestion made therein to the effect that you should be consulted and your advice obtained when any ancient buildings of Archaeological interest are to be repaired, and that any important archaeological discoveries that may be made should be brought to your notice

I am further to ask whether you will be so good as to personally inspect the temple at Halébid, and give your advice to the P.W. Deptt as to the manner in which the broken fragments should be arranged by the PW Deptt who, it is understood, will take up the work of putting

Subd to the Offg Dewan
31/12/00
31/10

them in order

Your opinion is also requested in regard to the gigantic stone mills which have been discovered in the Fort at Chittledroog which was referred to in this Office docket No 4098 mu 893 dated 15th September 1900 to your address.

I have in

H. Seely

Q. 6130
M 71-11-900
M 1321-V
G M

To

The Muzrai Supdt
in Mysore,

061

Subd to the Offg Dewan
31/10/20
31/10

Sir,

I am directed to forward herewith for your information, a copy of letter No 5525 & of the 26th instant, from the First Assistt to the Resident in Mysore, regarding the Conservation of ancient buildings in Mysore, and to request the favor of being informed at an early date -

(1) Whether, as suggested, the Temple at Balur may be placed under the Public Works Dept for the purpose of the needful repairs thereto being promptly executed; and whether the arrangements as regards the repair of that temple are as stated in para 2 of the Residency letter,

(2) Whether the Archaeological Dept is consulted regarding the conservation or repair of ancient buildings in your

MEMO OF PAPERS CIRCULATED TO COUNCILLORS. for information

SUBJECT

Letter No. 5525 dated the 26th October 1900 from the First Assistant to the Resident in Mysore, on the Subject of the Conservation of ancient buildings in Mysore.

By Order,

6. 11. 1900. Secretary.

To--

Rajadharma Pravina
T. R. A. Thumboo Chetti, Esq., C. I. E. Seen

P. N. Krishna Murti, Esq., C. I. E. Rs. 7 x 3 9 x 100

V. P. Madhava Rao, Esq. C. I. E. Rs. 9 11 00

327

The Secretary
Chief Secretary to Government

5757
78-11-~~189~~ 1900

From

The Director of Archæological Researches
in Mysore.

To

The Secretary to the Govt of Mysore,
Revenue & General Depts.

Dated Bangalore, 6 - 11 - 1900

Despatched

Received

General No. 1448

No.

Enclosure No

Stating in reply to letter No
6135 of the 1st inst.
In 1323
that suggestions contained
in para 1 should certainly
be carried out and that
report will be made later
on about the other matters
referred to in the letter

No 1448

BANGALORE, 6 November 1900

FROM

THE DIRECTOR OF ARCHÆOLOGICAL RESEARCHES
IN MYSORE.

TO

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVT. OF MYSORE,
REVENUE AND GENERAL DEPARTMENTS.

SIR,

In reply to para 1 of your letter No 6135 / No 1323 of the 1st instant, I have the honour to state that the suggestions therein contained should certainly be carried out, and no need, it seems to me, should exist for such an enquiry

2 In illustration of the desirability of referring such matters to me, I may refer to the case of the design prepared for the enclosure of the Bhadrabahu inscription at Sravana Belgola, which, however suitable in itself, was so inappropriate for the site in question that it would simply have ruined

what is considered the most picturesque view in the place.

3 Again, the design prepared for the Asoka Edicts was too hideous for words, and this was also the opinion, I believe, of the Chief Engineer (Colonel Bowen).

4 Report will be made later on regarding the other matters referred to in your letter.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

J. Burgess

Director of Archl. Researches

WM 4 Sm

From 51 76 / 100 / 60:11:'00. / Tr

The Munsarim Supdt. & Secty. to the Govt. of Mysore in the Munsarim Deptt.

To

THE SECY. TO THE GOVT. OF MYSORE,
GEN. & REV. DEPTS.

Dated 60:11:00,

Despatched

Received

General No. ____
No.

Enclosure No.

Submitting a note in response to this Office No. 6133/1321 dt 1:11:00

References to be marked.

Note by the Muzrai Secretary

Letter No. 6133/1321 dated 18th Novr. 1900, from the Secretary to Government, General and Revenue departments forwarding Copy of a Communication received from the Residency regarding the Temples at Bélúr and Halébid.

Bélúr Temple.—

This temple is endowed with a Muzrai Cash Grant of Rs 1047- a year and is under the management of the Muzrai department; any petty repairs that the Temple building may require from time to time are at present carried out by the Muzrai department out of the Savings effected from the fixed Cash Grant.

But what the residents of Belur have been urging for, during the past several years is, the re-Construction of the Temple Gópuram or Vimánú, which having become unsafe was dismantled several years ago in view

to save the other portions of the building from collapsing. The question of the re-construction of the Vimána was under earnest consideration of Government for several years. At first there was a great difficulty in getting up a proper design for the work owing to the strenuous opposition of the Temple priests, to the entry of European Engineers into the inner shrine. At last in the year 1896, I succeeded in persuading the Temple Archaks to allow Col: Bowen (Chief Engineer and Secretary to Government P.W. Department) access to the shrine to enable him to examine the structure in view to the preparation of a suitable design for the re-construction of the Vimána (cupola). Thereupon, Col: Bowen inspected the Temple building and expressed, as his opinion, that it would be decidedly risky to construct over the old roof a heavy dome of solid masonry, similar to the one that had formerly existed, and that the only feasible work would be, to erect a light wooden dome. But on this, the Dewan observed that the proposed

done would be regarded as somewhat incongruous, that the people might be informed that a proper Vimana could not be given without injuring or marring what remains of this ancient building and that it would be sufficient if the roof be made water-tight. Accordingly, the roof of the building was thoroughly repaired by the P.W. Department and the Superintending Engineer Mr. Mc. Hutchin in his note dated 28th September 1898, reports that the roof has been made water-tight.

The Honble the Resident in his letter of the 25th October 1900, remarks that the "roof of the temple is said to "require some attention at present". On this point, an urgent reference will be made to the Chief Engineer in view to the execution of any further repairs that might be needed to the roof now so as to render it completely water-tight.

Finally, as regards the suggestion to place the Temple building under the P.W. Department, for the purpose of

the needful repairs thereto being promptly executed, I would recommend its adoption in the interests of the Institution. The small savings effected out of the Muzrai grant are too inadequate to meet the cost of the extensive repairs at times considered necessary for the proper conservation of this temple. The building may therefore be transferred to the care of the P.W. Department only so far as the repairs thereto are concerned, the cost of such repairs being met out of the P. W. Budget, in Special Consideration of the importance of the structure as a renowned monument of ancient Hindu architecture.

With reference to the Query as to whether intimations are given to the Archaeological Department of any discoveries made during the repairs of Muzrai Temples, it may be stated that when sometime ago, Ventilators were opened out in the Temples at Melkote and Nanjangud, certain ancient inscriptions were brought

to light, and of this, due intimation was given to Mr. Rice in this Office Letters no 255 dated 6th September 1894 and 552 dated 13th December 1894. And whenever the Officers of the Archæological department visit the Temples for the purpose of studying and taking copies of Inscriptions therein, every facility for the work is given to them by the Temple Managers

The Kethareswara temple at Halébid referred to in the 3rd question is not in the Charge of the Muzrai department.

A Seemanchary

10-11-00

D 211
12-11-00 1900. Pol 809

From The F & A Resident
in Mysore

To

THE SECY. TO THE GOVT. OF MYSORE,
GEN. & REV. DEPTS.

Dated 10th Nov 1900

Despatched

Received

General No. 5894
No.

Enclosure No.

Stating that the Resdt considers that the Dr of Archl Researches should be consulted as to whether it is worth while doing anything, and if so what, to the Kail Iswara Temple at Halebid, &c.

References to be marked.

The file is under circulation for the information of the Chief. A draft forwarding the letter for an expression of the views of Mr. Rice is put up.

No. 5894

(14)

From

The FIRST ASSISTANT to the RESIDENT
in MYSORE.

To

The Officiating Dewan of Mysore.

Dated Bangalore, 10th November 1900.

Sir,

In continuation of my letter No.5525 dated the 26th October 1900 regarding the conservation of ancient buildings in Mysore, I am directed to say that the Resident, after personally visiting Halebid, considers that the Director of Archaeological Researches should be consulted as to whether it is worth while doing anything, and if so what. to the Jain Temple at Halebid. The very interesting Jain Temple in the same place is also in urgent need of attention.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant.

First Assistant Resident.

5645-1900
22.XI.00

MYSORE P W. DEPARTMENT.

No. 5628

From Chief Engineer >
THE ~~SECRETARY TO THE~~
~~GOVT.~~ OF MYSORE.

To The Secretary to the Govt: of Mysore, Secl & Revc:
Depts

Dated Bangalore,

Despatched 22 - 11 - 00

Enclosure No.

SUBJECT.

Expressing the opinion of the Chief Engineer re Conservation of ancient buildings in Mysore.

22-11-00

MYSORE P. W. DEPARTMENT.

No. 5628

BANGALORE, 20. November 1900

From Chief Engineer
THE ~~SECRETARY TO THE~~ GOVT. OF MYSORE,
P. W. DEPARTMENT.

To

The Secretary to the Government of Mysore
General and Revenue Departments

SIR,

With reference to your letter No: 6134 of 1322 M
1 Sh: stant, forwarding Copy of 1 Sh: Asst:
letter no: 5526 dated 26. October 1900, regarding Conserv
of ancient buildings in Mysore, for opinion on the several
points therein noted, I have the honor to inform you,
regard to the repairs of the Belur Temple, that it is sim
a question of funds. The grant for the P.W. Departm
having, on account of financial pressure, been consid
reduced, it is found impossible to meet the numerous
demands for funds received from all sides, and
sanctioned works which cannot be postponed
loss to Government and therefore treated as urgent,
been provided for, leaving a large number of other
works in abeyance. So long as this state of things last
the P.W Department cannot possibly provide for any fresh
work. Side public works which are of an urgent
The Belur Temple is not a P.W. building, and the cost of its
maintenance is therefore not properly chargeable to
P.W. Grant. It has hitherto been maintained from muz
funds and this office is not aware of any instance of
repairs to this Temple having been postponed owing to

to such funds not being available, but in such a case, the remedy is for a special grant being given by Government on the representation of the Muzrai department, instead of trenching on the already much crippled resources of the P.W. Department. But there is, however, no objection to the P.W. Dept. carrying out the work to this or any other Temple under the Muzrai Department, in cases in which professional skill and expeditious execution of works are considered essential.

II As regards points 2 and 3, it has hitherto never been the practice for this department to consult the Archaeological Department regarding repairs &c, of temples under its charge, but there is no objection to this being done in future, and orders will be accordingly issued to the Superintending Engineer of Circles. An estimate of Rs 331 was sanctioned in September last, with the approval of Government for grouping the statues and other figures lying in the compound of Hayasaleshwara and Kedareswara Temples in Hassan District, with orders to have the work completed before the arrival of the Viceroy, and the work must now be approaching completion. The Superintending Engineer, Western Circle, will be asked to report details of work done to the Archaeological Department for their information.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant;

John Campbell Colonel,

Chief Engineer of Ingore.

End

1900

To The Director of Archl
Researches in Mysore

No 6630 / 1323-11-1900
Mis 8440

In Continuation of
this Office letter No 6135 of
Mis 1323
the 1st instant, regarding the
Conservation of ancient
buildings in Mysore, has
the honor to state that
intimation has been recd
from the Hon'ble
that the Resident, after
personally Visiting Halebid,
Considers that the Dr of
Archl Researches should
be Consulted as to whether
it is worth while doing
anything, and if so, what

to the Kait Iswara temple
at Halebid and that the
very interesting Jain temple
in the same place is also
in urgent need of attention.
Requests therefore
that he will be so good
as to favour Govt with
an expression of his
views in the matter.

By order

by Devans order

Ed 12/11/00

By Secy

1900

(15)

To

The Director of Archl
Researches in Mysore

338.
Mis 1804 of 21/12/1900.

Has the honor to draw attn
to this office docket no 6638
Mis 1640
dated the 13th Novr last, re-
questing him to favor Govt
with his views as to what
is needed to be done to the
Kaitareswara temple at
Halebeid and to request
a very early reply thereto

2. The report promised
in his letter cited para 4
of his letter no 1468 of

the 6th item is also very
urgently ~~awaited~~ required as early
steps have to be taken to
carry out the suggestions
made by the Board the
last in Mysore.

By order

20/12/60

mis 2336

7679
16-1-01 1901

From

The Director of Archaeological Researches
in Mysore.

To

The Secretary to the Govt. of Mysore,
Revenue & General Depts.

Dated Bangalore, 16th January
Despatched 15-11 00
Received
General No. 1486
No

Enclosure No.

Forwarding a report relating to the ruined Kêdârêsvara temple at Halebid.

Reference Section
BK
16/1/01.

continued. There is therefore now nothing left of the sculptured features around and above the shrine at the west, which formed the principal attraction of the building.

5. The following steps have been taken to preserve what remains. A number of fallen and dismantled statues have been removed at a cost of Rs 331 to the Hoysaleśvara temple and put up there in the compound, which is protected by a wall. Next the erection of a wall round the Kêdârêśvara itself was carried out, at a cost of Rs 601, and what remain of the fallen statues and stones are lying there in heaps all over the ground.

6. The plan lately sanctioned may be carried out so far as it provides for repairing and rendering watertight the present concrete terrace roof, for extending the terrace, for resetting the pavement or flooring stones, and for removing the débris and stones littered all round the temple and arranging them in suitable spots in the compound.

7. In addition to this, the high substructure on which the temple stands should be freed from débris, exposed to view, and complete as far as possible, — with plain stones where necessary, — but most of the parts are lying about on the ground.

8. As regards the external superstructure of the building, the plan provides for incasing the back and sides by a sloping revetment of stone in clay for a height of 9 feet, and with burnt brick in clay for 4 feet above that. The result cannot but be an unsightly mound. As regards the front of the building, with ornamental porch, much of which is standing, the plan provides for erecting masonry

pillars to support the beams and relieve the pressure on such pillars as are out of plumb.

9. It is these parts of the plan which I think might with advantage be carried out differently. For the western end and sides the outline of the original building might be followed, and a wall of stones to be collected from the débris on the spot erected thereon, similar to a few feet which the Executive Engineer has already put up on trial. The wall might be slightly stepped inwards as necessary, but the appearance of a plain sloping mound should be avoided.

10. The porch and front portion of the temple there is no doubt could be nearly all restored, as the whole of the parts are either in position or lying on the spot. The pillars out of plumb could be made vertical without much difficulty, and supported in position by the pierced slabs which originally held them together. The model for this design can easily be obtained from the Hoysaleśvara temple, the north-east angle of which is of the same construction.

11. With these changes in the plan, I think can be done all that is possible in the present state of the building, and it will be preserved in a presentable form from further ruin.

I have the honour to be,

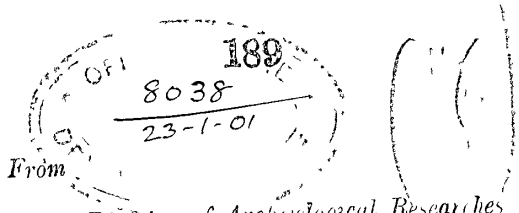
Sir,

your most obedient servant,

Director of Archaeological Researc

K.K. T.C.

Mis: 2419



From

The Director of Archaeological Researches
in Mysore.

To

The Secretary to the Govt. of Mysore,
Revenue & General Depts.

Dated Bangalore, 18-1-1901

Despatched

Received

General No. 1487

No.

Enclosure No.

Reporting as requested in para 3 of the Secretary's letter No 6135 of the 12th November last, on the stone mills lately discovered in the front of Chitaldurg.

22-1-01

No 1487

BANGALORE, 15th January 1901

FROM

THE DIRECTOR OF ARCHÆOLOGICAL RESEARCHES
IN MYSORE.

TO

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVT. OF MYSORE,
REVENUE AND GENERAL DEPARTMENTS.

SIR,

As requested in para 3 of your letter No. 6135 Mis 13 2-3 of the 1st November last, I have the honour to report on the stone mills lately discovered in the fort of Chitaldroog. They have been fully excavated and exposed to view, and the various parts put in positi Only a few stones that have fallen require to be replaced.

2. From their position it seems evident that the mills were included in the arsenal. And it seems to me that very likely the whole apparatus was designed for what was called milling mixing and incorporating gunpowder. It was certainly an engin for the production of something of that kind for military use, and from the little worn appearance of the stones and our knowled of the history of Chitaldroog it is most probable that the erectio belongs to the time of Tipu Sultan.

3.

The apparatus is not very liable to injury. All that needs be done is to level the ground around it and keep it free from vegetation. Some sort of railed enclosure might be provided that the place may be preserved in a state fit to be seen by visitors.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

your most obedient servant,

Director of Archaeological Researches.

K.K. T.T.

Mis. 2418

8037 189
23-1-01

From

The Director of Archaeological Researches
in Mysore

To

The Secretary to the Govt of Mysore,
Revenue & General Depts.

Dated Bangalore, 15/18 - 1 - 1901

Despatched

Received

General No 1488
No

Enclosure No

Reporting on the Jain temple the latter part of reference to in Secretary's docket No 6638/1440 of the 13th November last-

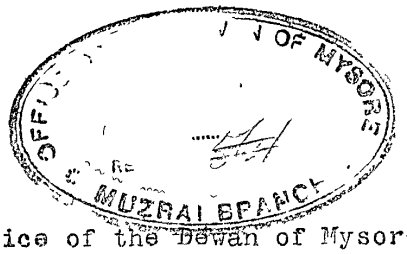
Q
22-1-01

Bangalore
28th Feb. 1901.

My dear Mr. Srinivasa Charlu.

I send herewith a copy of a letter dated 12th instant, sent to the Residency in re the Conservation of ancient buildings in Mysore, as promised to you the other day

Yours very sincerely
C Rangachariar



No.10470/Pol.403. Office of the Dewan of Mysore.

Dated Bangalore, 12th February 1901.

From.

The Secretary to the Government of Mysore,
General and Revenue Departments.

To

The First Assistant to the Hon'ble the
Resident in Mysore.

Sir,

Adverting to your letters of the 26th October and 10th November 1900, Nos. 5255 and 5894, conveying certain observations of the Hon'ble the Resident regarding the conservation of ancient buildings in Mysore, I am directed to state as follows:-

2. As regards temples in the State generally, a distinction has all along been maintained between buildings in which worship is still carried on, and those others (not many in number) which are deemed worthy of preservation as objects of antiquarian interest on account of their sculpture or architec--ture. Institutions falling under the latter class are alone placed under the care of the Public Works Department; while those of the former, like the Belur Temple, where the services are still regularly performed, are managed by the Muzrai Depart--ment, as delicate questions of ritual, &ca., are likely to be of frequent occurrence. But in so far as repairs to Muzrai Temples are concerned, the standing orders on the subject already provide that the Muzrai Department may apply for the

services

services of Public Works Officers in those cases in which professional advice and skill and expeditious execution of works are considered essential.

3. With reference to the Temple at Belur, what the residents of the place have been chiefly urging for some time past is, the reconstruction of the vimana or gopura which, having become unsafe, had to be dismantled years ago to save the other portions of the structure from collapse. Colonel Bowen, the late Chief Engineer of Mysore, who was, after considerable opposition from the priests, with difficulty permitted access to the shrine, inspected the building in 1896, and expressed the opinion that it would be decidedly risky to construct a heavy dome of solid masonry over the old roof, and that the only work feasible was to put up a light wooden dome. This, however, was deemed obviously incongruous in an architectural point of view, and as a proper vimana could not be provided without injuring or marring what remained of the ancient buildings, it was considered sufficient to have the roof made water tight. This was accordingly done in the year 1898, by the Public Works Department. That Department has now been asked to again examine the present condition of the building generally and of the roof in particular with a view to any needful repairs being promptly effected out of the special annual grant of Rs.15,000 which the Durbar have year after year been sanctioning for the urgent repairs of the more important Muzrai Institutions in the State.

4. It has not been usual to consult the Director of Archaeological Researches with regard to the repairs &ca., of ancient buildings under Public Works charge. The Public Works Department will however be requested to do so in future, in all cases, such as those involving statues, inscriptions,

inscriptions, or other matters of archaeological importance, in which the suggestions of the Director would be of value.

5. As regards the work at Halebid, referred to by the Hon'ble the Resident, it may be explained that, in view of the approaching visit of H.E. the Viceroy, it was considered desirable to have the statues and other figures of which a large number were lying scattered about the compounds of the Kédarés-vara and Hoysalésvara Temples, properly grouped; and an estimate for this work was accordingly sanctioned for speedy execution in September last. Mr. Rice has however since placed himself in communication with the Public Works Department, and has submitted certain suggestions, which will be referred to that Department for consideration and needful action.

6. Not having received any specific representations on the subject from the Director, Archaeological Researches, the Durbar do not feel they are in a position to say that their local officers have neglected to furnish him with information regarding important archaeological discoveries. In the particular instance of the stone mills excavated near the Chitaldrug Fort, there does not appear to be any good ground for such a surmise, as the report submitted by the Deputy Commissioner, soon after, on the 1st September 1900, was communicated by Government on the 15th idem to Mr. Rice. At the same time, by far the larger num-ber of archaeological finds will probably be found to consist of ancient inscriptions in temple premises, easily accessible for examination; and it is reported by the Muzrai Superintendent that every facility is afforded by the managers of temples to Officers of the Archaeological Department who visit them for the purpose of studying and taking copies of inscriptions.

7. To ensure that prompt intimation is given in future,

of all

of all discoveries of archaeological interest, the Durbar will issue needful instructions to local officers.

I have &ca.,.

Sd/- C. Sreenivasiengar.

Secretary.

12th February 1901.

V.N.

No. 10470
Pol 403

OFFICE OF THE DEWAN OF MYSORE,
DATED BANGALORE, 12th February 1901

From

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE,
GENERAL AND REVENUE DEPARTMENTS.

To

THE FIRST ASSISTANT TO THE
RESIDENT IN MYSORE

SIR

Adverting to your letters of the 26th October and 10th November 1900, Nos. 5255 and 5894, conveying certain observations of the Hon'ble the Resident regarding the conservation of ancient buildings in Mysore, I am directed to state as follows.

2. As regards temples in the State generally, a distinction has all along been maintained between buildings in which worship is still carried on, and those others (not many in number) which are deemed worthy of preservation as objects of antiquarian interest on account of their sculpture or architecture. Institutions falling under the latter class are alone placed under the care of the Public Works Department; while those of the former, like the Belur Temple, where the services are still regularly performed, are managed by the Muzrai Department, as delicate questions of ritual, &c., are likely to be of frequent occurrence. But in so far as repairs to Muzrai Temples are concerned, the standing orders on the subject already provide that the Muzrai Department may apply for the services

of Public Works Officers in those cases in which professional advice and skill and expeditious execution of works are considered essential.

3. With reference to the temple at Belur, what the residents of the place have been chiefly urging for some time past is, the reconstruction of the vimâna or gopura which, having become unsafe, had to be dismantled years ago to save the other portions of the structure from collapse. Colonel Bowen, the late Chief Engineer of Mysore, who was, after considerable opposition from the priests, with difficulty permitted access to the shrine, inspected the building in 1896, and expressed the opinion that it would be decidedly risky to construct a heavy dome of solid masonry over the old roof, and that the only work feasible was to put up a light wooden dome. This, however, was deemed obviously incongruous in an architectural point of view, and as a proper vimâna could not be provided without injuring or marring what remained of the ancient buildings, it was considered sufficient to have the roof made water tight. This was accordingly done in the year 1898, by the Public Works Dept. That Dept. has now been asked to again examine the present condition of the building generally and of the roof in particular with a view to any needful repairs being promptly effected out of the special annual grant of Rs. 15000 which the Durbar have year after year been sanctioning for the urgent repairs of the more important Muzroi Institutions in the State.

4. It has not been usual to consult the Director of Archaeological Researches with regard to the repairs &c. of ancient buildings under Public Works charge. The Public Works Dept. will however be requested to do so in future, in all cases, such as those involving statues, inscriptions, or other matters of archaeological importance, in which the suggestions of the Director would be of value.

5. As regards the work at Halebid, referred to by the Hon'ble the Resident, it may be explained that, in view of the approaching visit of H.E. the Viceroy, it was considered desirable to have the statues and other figures of which a large number were lying scattered about the compounds of the Kedaresvara and Hoysalesvara Temples, properly grouped; and an estimate for this work was accordingly sanctioned for speedy execution in September last. Mr. Rice has however since placed himself in communication with the Public Works Dept., and has submitted certain suggestions, which will be referred to that Department for consideration and needful action.

6. Not having received any specific representations on the subject from the Director of Archaeological Researches, the Durbar do not feel they are in a position to say that their local officers have neglected to furnish him with information regarding important archaeological discoveries. In the particular instance of the stone mills excavated near the Chitaldrug Fort, there does not appear to be any good ground for such a surmise, as the report submitted by the Deputy Commissioner, soon after, on the 1st September 1900, was communicated by Government on the 15th idem to Mr. Rice. At the same time, by far the larger number of archaeological finds will probably be found to consist of ancient inscriptions in temple premises, easily accessible for examination; and it is also reported by the Muzrai Superintendent that every facility is afforded by the managers of temples to Officers of the Archaeological Dept. who visit them for the purpose of studying and taking copies of inscriptons.

7. To ensure that prompt intimation is given in future, of all discoveries of archaeological interest, the Durbar will issue needful instructions to local officers.

I have&c.,

12/7/01

Secty.

My dear Sir,

I submit herewith a application, which I hope may suit. I had to get several references from the Mysore & P.W. depts, and as it is the Mysore manager (A. Nrityanjaya Iyer) has been of great assistance to me.

Yours sincerely

P. Chandrasekhara Iyer

9-2-01.

Manuscript is needed very well.

10/2/01

My dear Chandrasekhara Ey.

Will you kindly keep
a seat for me. I have
no time to do it myself.
I cannot know why the
Resident should interfere
in a matter of this kind.
The only must be a letting
out of pensions due.

Yours very sincerely,
C. Rangacharlu

Received 30.11.
5.2.01.

passed on.
Asst. Offg
Secy to Govt
12.2.01.

To

The First Assistant to the Resident
in Mysore.

Sir,

Advertin to your letters of the 26th Oct. and 10th Nov. 1900, Nos 5525 and 5804, conveying certain observations of the Hon'ble the Resident regarding the conservation of ancient buildings in Mysore, I am directed to state as follows.

3. With reference to the temple at Belur, ~~What the intentions of Belur~~ ~~it is believed that~~ what the residents of the place have been chiefly urging for some time past is, ~~it is believed~~, the reconstruction of the vimana or gopura ~~of the temple~~, which, having become unsafe, had to be dismantled several years ago to save the other portions of the structure from collapse. Colonel Bowen, the late Chief Engineer of Mysore, who was ~~personally~~, after considerable opposition from the priests, ~~at last~~ with difficulty permitted access to the shrine, inspected the building in 1896, and expressed the opinion that it would be decidedly risky to construct a heavy dome of solid masonry over the old roof, and that the only work feasible was to put up a light wooden dome. This, however, was deemed obviously incongruous ~~with~~ in an

architectural point of view; ~~the ... ge~~; and as a proper vimâna could not be provided without injuring or marring what remained of the ancient building, it was considered sufficient to have the roof made water-tight. This was accordingly done in the year 1898, by the Public Works Dept. That Dept has now been asked to again examine the present condition of the roof with a vie to any needful repairs being effected.

2. As regards temples in the State generally, a distinction has all along been maintained between buildings in which worship is still carried on, and those others (not many in number) which are deemed worthy of preservation as objects of antiquarian interest on account of their sculpture or architecture. Institutions falling under the latter class are alone placed under the care of the Public Works Dept; while those of the ~~latter~~ former, like the Belur Temple, where the services are still regularly performed, are managed by the Muzrai Dept, as delicate questions of ritual, etc., are likely to be of frequent occurrence, ~~and it would obviously not be advisable to place the management of such temples in the charge of the secular agency of the Public Works Dept~~. But in so far as repairs to Muzrai Temples are concerned, ~~there has been nothing to prevent the~~ the standing orders on the subject already provide that the Muzrai Dept may apply for the ser-

Vide chief Commr's Circular no. 4 dy 3 Oct. 1871, para 4. (copy put up.)

Vide Dewan's orders dy 10-8-98 in D.O.W. File, put up. (file to be sent to D.O.W. after perusal)

Order no. 5311-20 Ci. 160 dt 12-11-88 (Spare copy put up).

vices of Public Works Officers in those cases in which professional advice and skill and expeditious execution of works are considered essential. ~~And this is in fact what the standing order on the subject already provide~~.

The question in regard to the Temple at Belur is not one of management, but on the other hand a question of funds. The savings from the annual Muzrai grant of Rs.1047 are only sufficient to meet the ordinary petty repairs, while the considerably reduced scale of the Public Works Budget does not allow of any but bona fide public works being provided for from that source. Under these circumstances, and though as a rule the duty of keeping up buildings employed for purposes of worship devolves at least as much on the devotees and communities interested as on the State, the Government have been every year since 1892-93 making a special provision, now fixed at Rs. 15,000, for the urgent repairs of the more important institutions in the State. And out of this grant the Darbar will now direct the execution of such special repairs as may be needed for the preservation of so renowned a monument of ancient Indian architecture as the Sri Chennakesavaswami Temple at Belur.

Vide order no. 259-60 Emp-3-105-92 dt 15-12-92 (Spare copy put up)

(Here enter para 3) -

4. It has not been usual to consult the Director of Archaeological Researches with regard to the repairs etc. of ancient buildings under Public Works charge. The Public Works Dept will however be requested to do so in future, in all cases, such as those involving statues, inscriptions, and or other matters of archaeological importance, in which the suggestions of the Director would be of value.

5. As regards the work at Halebid, refe red to by the Resident, it will be explained that, in view of the approaching visit of H.E.the Viceroy, it was considered desirable to have the statues and other figures, of which a large number were lying scattered about the compounds of the Kedaresvara and Hoysalesvara Temples, properly grouped; and an estimate for this work was accordingly sanctioned for speedy execution in September last. Mr.Rice has however since placed himself in communication with the Public Works Dept, and has submitted certain suggestions, which will be referred to that Department for consideration and needful action.

6. Not having received any specific representations on the subject from the Director of Archaeological Researches, the Darbar do not feel they are in a position to say that their local officers neglect to furnish him with information regarding important archaeological dis-

coveries. In the particular instance of the stone mills excavated near the Chitaldrug Fort, there does not appear to be any good ground for such a surmise, as the report submitted by the Deputy Commissioner soon after, on the 1st September 1900, was communicated by Government on the 15th idem to Mr. Rice. At the same time, by far the larger number of archaeological finds will probably be found to consist of ancient inscriptions in temple premises, ~~and~~ easily accessible for examination; ~~these, it would appear~~ from instances quoted by the Muzrai Superintendent, are duly notified to the Archaeological Dept; and it is ~~also~~ reported by ~~that~~ Officer that every facility is afforded by the managers of temples to Officers of the Archaeological Dept who visit them for the purpose of studying and taking copies of inscriptions.

To ~~prevent any omission in this respect~~ ensure that prompt information in future, the Darbar will ~~now issue instructions~~ to local Officers to give prompt intimation of all discoveries of archaeological interest to the Archaeological Dept.

I have etc. etc.

Secretary.

11595-1164

Lm 7-15-7906

Subject:- Offg Newsam proceeding to Egypt

16708 Estt 1812/01

20/12/1901

Order

Govt desire that the Director and other local officers will acquaint themselves, as far as possible by enquiries in the course of their tours and otherwise, with the existence and nature of all objects of archaeological interest within their jurisdictions, such as ancient inscriptions, statues, relic trophies, ruined buildings, buried implements and the like & communicate as speedily as possible all such discoveries of the kind should be promptly communicated to the Director of Archaeological Researches; and steps taken to ensure that with a view to afford every facility to local officers deputed by him for the examination and study of the same.

18.2.01.

Sec.

do

H.C. Heas forwarded by Commr of Viziag

Read again

1. Letters nos 5255 and 5894 dy the 26th Oct.r and 10th Nov.r 1900 from the First Asst to the Resident in Mysore, regarding the conservation of ancient buildings in Mysore.

2. Read also correspondence ending with the foll.g letter from the Sec.y to the Govt of Mysore, Genl & Rev Depts, to the F. A. to the Resident in Mysore, no 10470/Pol. 403 dy the 12th Feb.y 1901:—

(In extenso) —

Rec.d & Reg.d Chowan pr abdl 19/2/01. 1670/1901

Q. F. 15 of 1900

Order thereon: No 11590-4 dy 12-3-01 to F. 15-1900

The Chief Engineer is requested to have the present condition of the Belur Temple generally and of the roof in particular examined with a view to any needful repairs being promptly effected out of the special annual grant of Rs 15,000 sanctioned for the urgent repairs of the more important Muzrai institutions in the State.

Sent to C.E. 21/3/01

2. The Public Works Dept is requested in future to consult the Director of Archaeological Researches in all cases of repairs etc to ancient buildings under its charge, ~~in which~~ such as those involving stating, inscriptions, or other matters of archaeological importance, in which the suggestions of that officer would be of value.

3. The suggestions made by the ~~Dire~~ same Officer in his letters no 1486 and 1488 of the 10th and 15th Jan.y 1901, regarding the repairs of the Hedavaram and Hazpaleswara temples at Halebid, are referred to the ~~Chief Engineer~~ Public Works Dept for consideration and needful action; and those made in his letter no 1487 of the 15th para 3 of; regarding the stone railing discovered near Chitaldrug Fort idem to the 25 Cornus of Chitaldrug for ~~execution~~ necessary conservation, any cost incurred being debited to the Dandg, in the Archaeological Budget for the current year.

Sec?

Do no 1/5:01

The Ch. Engr & Secy to Govt P.W.D. the Director of Archaeological Researches in Mysore, the Superintending Engineer, Chitaldrug Circle, the Executive Engineer, Chitaldrug Division, the Deputy Commissioner, Chitaldrug, the Superintendent of Archaeological Researches in Mysore

N O T E.

× Serial no 5.

The Resident in Mysore having addressed the Durbar on the subject of the conservation of ancient buildings in Mysore, which have recently come to his notice, the views of the Chief Engineer in Mysore, the Director of Archaeological Researches and of the Muzrai Superintendent, were called for, on the several points noted by the Resident and they are as follows:-

I.(a) Preservation of the temple at Belur.

× Serial no 5

The Resident observes that as this temple is under Muzari Department, and a lump grant is made by that Department annually for temple festivals, up-keep and temple repairs &ca., and urgent extra expenditure, when at any time there is special damage to the temple, cannot be met out of the grant, ~~so that~~ irrepairable damage might be done for want of a special grant; where as, he understands, that any repairs needed to the temple at Halebid ~~&&&&&& &&&&&~~ are promptly executed, as the temple is under

the

the Public Works Department. The Resident agrees with the suggestion of the priests and other persons connected with the Belur temple, viz, that it shall be placed under the Public Works Department, instead of the Muzrai Department, in order that repairs may be carried out without delay, and he accordingly enquires whether the Durbar are disposed to effect this change. On this suggestion, the Muzrai Superintendent reports that the Belur temple is endowed with a Muzrai cash grant of Rs.1017 a year, and any petty repairs that the temple building may require from time to time are at present carried out by the Muzrai Department out of the savings effected from the fixed cash grant, which (savings) is inadequate for the proper conservation of this Institution and recommends that the building may therefore be transferred to the care of the Public Works Department only so far as the repairs thereto are concerned, the cost there of being met out of the Public Works Budget. But the Chief Engineer says that the grant of the Public Works Department,

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as suggested by the Resident.

Serial No 14

having

having, on account of financial pressure, being considerably reduced, the Public Works Department cannot possibly provide for any but bona-fide public works of an urgent nature and that as the Belur temple is not a P.W. Building suggests that a special grant may be given by Government on the representation of the Muzrai Department, instead of trenching on the resources of the P.W.Department. And he states that there is no objection however, to the P.W.D., carrying out repairs to any temple under the Muzrai Deptt in cases in which professional skill and expeditious execution of works are considered essential.

The question of funds has to be decided.

I. (b) Again, as regards the same temple the Resident thinks that the roof of it requires some attention at present.

Serial no 5.

On this point, the Muzrai Superintendent states that the re-construction of the temple "gopuram" or "vimana," having been urged by the residents of Belur, several years ago, the Chief Engineer(Col. Bowen inspected the temple and expressed

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that

that it would be decidedly risky to construct over the old roof a heavy dome of solid masonry similar to the one which formerly existed and that the only feasible work would be to erect a light wooden dome, but the Dewan is reported to have said that this would be incongruous and would mar the ancient building and that it would be sufficient if the roof be made water-tight and accordingly the Public Works Deptt., reported in September 1898 that the roof had been made water tight. And that if any further repairs are needed to the roof now, as observed by Resident, the Chief Engineer will be addressed on the subject.

The Resident further enquires. Serial no 5.

II. (a). Whether the Archaeological Department is actually consulted before any action is taken by the P.W. Deptt., re the conservation or repair of ancient buildings and

(b) whether important Archaeological discoveries are immediately referred to the Archaeological Deptt.,.

As regards the above points, the Chief Engineer reports that it Serial no 14

has

has hitherto never been the practice for the P.W. Deptt., to consult the Archaeological Department regarding repairs &ca., to temples but that, there is no objection to this being done in future, ~~and accordingly~~

II (b) above the Mugrai Superintendent states that due intimation was given to Mr. Rice of the discovery of certain ancient inscriptions which were brought to light when, sometime ago, ventilators were opened out in the temples at Melkote and Nanjangud.

Serial no 5

III. The Resident mentions two instances in which there has been failure on the part of the Executive authorities to consult with Mr. Rice viz: (a) the manner in which the scattered fragments of the kathareswara temple at Halebid, are to be arranged, by the P.W. Deptt. and

(b) the discovery of a set of gigantic stone mills in the Fort at Chitaldroog. In connection with (a) above, the Resident after personally inspecting Halebid, suggested that Mr. Rice should

Serial no 12

consulted

consulted as to whether it is worth while doing anything and if so what, to the Kethareswara temple at Halebid, Mr. Rice who was asked to report upon the matter states as follows:-

Letter No.1486 dated 10th January 1901 from the Director of Archaeological Researches in Mysore, to the Secy: to the Government of Mysore, Revenue and General Departments.

I have the honor to reply to your docket No.8338/Mis.1804 of the 21st ultimo and connected correspondence relating to the ruined Kedareswara temple at Halebid. Immediately on receipt of the first of your letters (No.6135/Mis.1323 of 1st November) I put myself in communication with the Public Works Department in order to ascertain what were the plans under consideration for repairing the temple, and under whose charge. Arrangements were also made for meeting the executive Engineer on the spot as soon as possible after the Viceroy's visit was over.

2. On examining the plan lately sanctioned for execution at a cost of Rs.2190, I regret to say that it does not

does not seem to me suitable in all respects. Indeed, without modific--ation, I fear the result might be the erection of what I can only describe as a monstrosity, which would be an eyesore to the place and to all artistic visitors.

3. The building - which was a very ornate specimen of Chalukyan architecture, erected by the Hoysala kings soon after 1200, and which was considered by Fergusoon, the great authority on architecture, to be a gem,- was unfortunately neglected too long to allow of its restoration. According to drawings in the Mackenzie Collection, it was free and entire at the beginning of the century. Even in 1856, according to photographs by Captain Tripe, though partly overshadowed by the banyan tree which had taken root in the "vimana," it was for the most part clear and intact. But the accom--panying two views will serve to show (a) what was its state some 35 years ago, when it was overgrown by the banyan tree, and (b) what was its state in 1886 after the tree had been cleared away.

÷ will follow.

4. Both before and since this

latte

latter date sculptured stones, which had been thrust out by the pressure of the ruined walls of which had been deliberately dismantled for the purpose, were removed in considerable numbers to Mysore, B[illegible] and other places. There was at one time some proposed proposal for re-erecting the building in Cubbon Park as a work of art, and on the death of the late Maharaja the idea of erecting it as a memorial to him in Mysore was mooted. Elaborate drawings were therefore made to scale, and the stones numbered. But neither of these projects was carried out. Meanwhile the dilapidation and dismantling continued. There is therefore now nothing left of the sculptured features around and above the shrine at the west, which formed the principal attraction of the building.

5. The following steps have been taken to preserve what remained. A number of fallen and dismantled statues have been removed at a cost of Rs. 661 to the Hoysalesvara temple and put up there in the compound, which is protected by a wall. Next the erection of a wall round the Kedaresvara itself was carried out, at a cost of Rs.601, and what remain of the fallen statues and stones are lying there in heaps all over the ground.

6. The plan lately sanctioned may be carried out so far as it provides for repairing and rendering watertight the present concrete terrace roof, for extending the terrace, for resetting the pavement or flooring stones, and for removing the debris and stones littered all round the temple and arranging them in suitable spots in the compound.

7. In addition to this, the high substructure on which the temple stands should be freed from debris, exposed to view, and completed as far as possible,- with plain stones where necessary,- but most of the parts are lying about on the ground.

8. As regards the external superstructure of the building, the plan provides for incasing the back and sides by a sloping revetment of stone in clay for a height of 9 feet, and with burnt brick in clay for 4 feet above that. The result cannot but be an unsightly mound. As regards the front of the building, with ornamental porch, much of which is standing, the plan provide for erecting masonry pillars to support the beams and relieve the pressure on such pillars as are out of plumb.

9. It is these parts of the plan which I think might with advantage be carried out differently. For the western end and sides the outline of the original building might be followed, and a wall of stones to be collected from the debris on the spot erected thereon, similar to a few feet which the Executive Engineer has already put up on trial. The wall might be slightly stepped inwards as necessary, but the appearance of a plain sloping mound should be avoided.

10. The porch and front portion of the temple there is no doubt could be nearly all restored, as the whole of the parts are either in position or lying on the spot. The pillars out of plumb could be made vertical without much difficulty, and be supported in position by the pierced slabs which originally held them together. The model for this design can easily be obtained from the Mukteswara temple, the north-east angle of which is of the same construction.

11. With these changes in the plan, I think one can at all events be reasonably sure that the present state of the building, as it will be preserved in the whole form from further ruin,

with reference to (b) above, (Page 5) the Deputy Commissioner of Chital-droog reported the discovery of the Stone Mills to Government, who, after referring the matter to Mr. Rice sanctioned a sum of Rs.100 for removing the debris round the stone so that it might be exposed to the public view, as an interesting sight to visitors, indicating the mechanical skill of by gone times. In this connection Mr. Rice now says:-

" They have been fully ~~&&&&&&~~ evacuated and exposed to view ~~seen by visitors~~.

† and the various parts put in position. Only a few stones that have fallen require to be replaced.

2. From their position it seems evident that the mills were included in the arsenal. And it seems to me that very likely the whole apparatus was designed for what was called milling, mixing and incorporating gunpowder. It was certainly an engine for the production of something of that kind for military use, and from the little worn appearance of the stones and our knowledge of the history of Chitaldroog, it is most probable that the erection belongs to the time of Tipu Sultan.

The apparatus is not very liable to injury. All that needs be done is to level the ground around it and keep it free from vegetation. Some sort of railed enclosure might be provided that the place may be preserved in a state fit to be seen by visitors. ‖

As regards the Jain temple at Halebid (Line 12) which the Resident thinks† is in "urgent need of repairs", Mr. Rice reports that he inspected the Jain temple, that the only damaged part is the mantap in front of the basti which is not a part of the temple itself but quite separate and that one or two of the corner stones in the roofing, are cracked but they have with square wooden posts and that these may remain for the present.

Mr. Rice further reports that the large Hoyalesvara temple in the same place is also in need of attention and suggests certain remedial being taken.

The points requiring order are:

I. The question of funds for the repairs of the Belur Temple and the latter's transfer to P.W. Deptt for annual repairs &ca.,.

II. Whether all ancient buildings, in the State of historic or &&&&&&&&- architectural interest should not be placed in charge of the P.W.Deppt. as regards their annual repairs and conservation from decay.

III Nal The Archäeological Department should first be consulted before any action is taken by the P.W.Deptt as regards conservation or repairs of ancient buildings.

iV. That all important Archl: discoveries should at once be reported to the Archl: Department.

V. That the repairs of the Halebid temples and collection and grouping of the scattered fragments around it, Yea should be carried out as far as possible on the lines indicated by the Archl: Department.

VI. That due provision should be made for the preservation in a fit state by visitors of the Fill Stone found in possible danger ~~by visitors~~. as suggested by Mr Rice.

witted

1900-1901

GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE

GENERAL

PROCEEDINGS

Dated 2nd March 1901

No. 11590-4 / Mis. F. 15-1900

Passing orders regarding the conservation of ancient buildings in Mysore.

SBP—11-3-1901—200

OFFICE RECEIVED MYSORE
Date 16-3-01
REG. No 794
MUZ

READ AGAIN—

Letters Nos. 5255 and 5894, dated the 26th October and 10th November 1900, from the First Assistant to the Resident in Mysore, regarding the conservation of ancient buildings in Mysore.

READ ALSO—

Correspondence ending with the following letter from the Secretary to the Government of Mysore, General and Revenue Departments, to the First Assistant to the Resident in Mysore, No. 10470—Pol. 403, dated the 12th February 1901 :—

Adverting to your letters of the 26th October and 10th November 1900, Nos. 5255 and 5894, conveying certain observations of the Honourable the Resident regarding the conservation of ancient buildings in Mysore, I am directed to state as follows :—

2. As regards temples in the State generally, a distinction has all along been maintained between buildings in which worship is still carried on, and those others (not many in number) which are deemed worthy of preservation as objects of antiquarian interest on account of their sculpture or architecture. Institutions falling under the latter class are alone placed under the care of the Public Works Department; while those of the former, like the Belur temple, where the services are still regularly performed, are managed by the Muzrai Department, as delicate questions of ritual, &c., are likely to be of frequent occurrence. But in so far as repairs to Muzrai temples are concerned, the standing orders on the subject already provide that the Muzrai Department may apply for the services of Public Works Officers in those cases in which professional advice and skill and expeditious execution of works are considered essential.

3. With reference to the temple at Belur, what the residents of the place have been chiefly urging for some time past is, the re-construction of the *vimana* or *gopura* which, having become unsafe, had to be dismantled years ago, to save the other portions of the structure from collapse. Colonel Bowen, the late Chief Engineer of Mysore, who was, after considerable opposition from the priests, with difficulty, permitted access to the shrine, inspected the building in 1896, and expressed the opinion that it would be decidedly risky to construct a heavy dome of solid masonry over the old roof, and that the only work feasible was to put up a light *wooden* dome. This, however, was deemed obviously incongruous in an architectural point of view, and as a proper *vimana* could not be provided without injuring or marring what remained of the ancient buildings, it was considered sufficient to have the roof made water-tight. This was accordingly done in the year 1898, by the Public Works Department. That Department has now been asked to again examine the present condition of the building generally and of the roof in particular, with a view to any needful repairs being promptly effected out of the special annual grant of Rs. 15,000 which the Durbar have year after year been sanctioning for the urgent repairs of the more important Muzrai Institutions in the State.

4. It has not been usual to consult the Director of Archæological Researches with regard to the repairs, &c., of ancient buildings under Public Works charge. The Public Works Department will, however, be requested to do so in future, in all cases, such as those involving statues, inscriptions or other matters of archæological importance, in which the suggestions of the Director would be of value.

5. As regards the work at Halebid, referred to by the Hon'ble the Resident, it may be explained that, in view of the approaching visit of H. E. the Viceroy, it was considered desirable to have the statues and other figures, of which a large number were lying scattered about the compounds of the Kedaresvara and Hoysalesvara temples, properly grouped; and an estimate for this work was accordingly sanctioned for speedy execution in September last. Mr. Rice has, however, since placed himself in communication with the Public Works Department and has submitted certain suggestions, which will be referred to that Department for consideration and needful action.

6. Not having received any specific representations on the subject from the Director of Archæological Researches, the Durbar do not feel they are in a position to say that their local officers have neglected to furnish him with information regarding important archæological discoveries. In the particular instance of the stone mills excavated near the Chitaldrug Fort, there does not appear to be any good ground for such a surmise, as

General, dated 2nd March 1901.

the report submitted by the Deputy Commissioner, soon after, on the 1st September 1900, was communicated by Government on the 15th idem to Mr. Rice. At the same time, by far the larger number of archæological finds will probably be found to consist of ancient inscriptions on temple premises, easily accessible for examination; and it is reported by the Muzrai Superintendent that every facility is afforded by the managers of temples to officers of the Archæological Department who visit them for the purpose of studying and taking copies of inscriptions.

7. To ensure that prompt intimation is given in future, of all discoveries of archæological interest, the Durbar will issue needful instructions to local officers.

No. 11590-4—Mis. F. 15-1900, dated Bangalore, 2nd March 1901.

Order thereon—The Chief Engineer is requested to have the present condition of the Belur temple generally and of the roof in particular examined with a view to any needful repairs being promptly effected out of the special annual grant of Rs. 15,000 sanctioned for the urgent repairs of the more important Muzrai institutions in the State.

2. The Public Works Department is requested in future to consult the Director of Archæological Researches in all cases of repairs, &c., to ancient buildings under its charge, such as those involving statues, inscriptions, or other matters of archæological importance, in which the suggestions of that officer would be of value.

3. The suggestions made by the same officer in his letters Nos. 1486 and 1488, dated the 10th and 15th January 1901, regarding the repairs of the Kedaresvara and Hoysalesvara temples at Halebid, are referred to the Public Works Department for consideration and needful action; and those made in para 3 of his letter No. 1487 of the 15th idem, regarding the stone mills discovered near Chitaldrug Fort, to the Deputy Commissioner of Chitaldrug for needful action, any cost incurred being debited to savings in the Archæological budget for the current year.

In Secy. to Govt., Gen. & Rev. Depts.

To—The Chief Engineer to Government, P. W. D., with enclosures.
The Muzrai Superintendent and *Ex-officio* Secretary to Government.
The Director of Archæological Researches in Mysore.
The Deputy Commissioner, Chitaldrug District, with enclosures.
The Comptroller to the Government of Mysore.

Exd.—C.V.

320
16-7-01

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MYSORE P. W DEPARTMENT.

From

The Chief Engineer of Mysore,
Bangalore.

To

The Secy. to the Govt. of Mysore,
General & Revenue Department.

No. 3658

Dated Bangalore 6-7-01

Despatched

Enclosure *No.* 1

SUBJECT.

Forwarding copy of Hassan Division Executive Engineer's docket regarding the Conservation of ancient buildings in his Division

GBR 7.7

MYSORE P. W. DEPARTMENT

CENTRAL OFFICE,

Bangalore, 6th July 1901~~89~~

No. 3658

From

The Chief Engineer of Mysore,

To

The Secretary to the Govt. of Mysore,

General and Revenue *Department.*

Sir,

With reference to Govt:Pro:No:11590-4/Mis F 15-1900 dated 2nd March last, regarding the conservation of ~~anicut~~ ancient buildings in Mysore, I have the honour to forward the enclose copy of docket No.289 of 14th June 1901, from the Hassan Division Executive Engineer, for information.

II. The detailed report on the condition of the Belur Temple referred to in para I of above Executive Engineer's docket was sent to Muzrai Secretary, with this office No.637 dated 8th February 1901. Attention is also invited to this office No. 3657 of this date.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

W. J. W. Bentley

Offg Chief Engineer of Mysore

A.P.S.

(General Serial No. 30.)

1901

From The Executive Engineer
Hassan Division

To The Superintending Engineer
Western Circle

Dated Hassan 14th June 1901

Despatched

Received

General No. 289 } 190 .
No.

Enclosures Number.

Superintending Engineer's
No 1224 dated 10th April 1901,
forwarding Copy of Proceedings
No 11590-4 / Mis. F. 15-1900 dated 2nd March
1901, regarding Conservation
of ancient buildings in
Mysore. —

— 11 —

With reference to para
2 of the above, has the
honor to report that a
detailed report on the con-
dition of Belur Temple
and

with estimate was submitted with this office No. 32 dated 18th January 1901. Work will be carried out next year as per estimate received sanctioned, vide Superintending Engineer's No. 1753 dated 23rd May 1901.

I As regards para 3 of the above, beg to report as follows. —

(1) Kedareswara Temple at Halebid. Such portion of the estimate sanctioned in the Superintending Engineer's No. 3669 dated 27th September 1900, for Rs 2190 as is approved by Mr. Rice, Director of Archaeological Researches, will be carried out next year, and after gaining experience modified estimate providing for additional work and design for Superstructure will be prepared and submitted. —

(2) Hoysaleswara Temple. To prop up the cracked stone beam so as not to obstruct the line of view, carved stone pillars are required. Undersigned will be on the look-out for them, and when they are found, an estimate will be submitted for the work. — It is not however, urgent. —

(3) Jain Basti Temple. Mr. Rice has approved of what has been done — viz: wooden supports

to cracked stones in the roofing of the Mantap. —

Sd/- A.S. Sagavkar
Executive Engineer
Hassan Division

True Copy

Assistant Secretary
Office of the Chief Engineer
of Mysore

Bangalore
6-7-07

APJ.